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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/763,633	01/22/2004	Susan G. Yan	GP-303571	7710
65798 7590 02/04/2009 MILLER IP GROUP, PLC GENERAL MOTORS CORPORATION 42690 WOODWARD AVENUE SUITE 200 BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MI 48304				
EXAMINER WALKER, KEITH D				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
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02/04/2009		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES

Ex parte: SUSAN G. YAN AND JOHN C. DOYLE

Application No. 10/763,633
Technology Center 1700

Mailed: February 4, 2009

Before KRISTA ZELE *Deputy Chief Appeals Administrator*
ZELE, *Deputy Chief Appeals Administrator*.

ORDER RETURNING UNDOCKETED APPEAL TO EXAMINER

This application was electronically received by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences on October 15, 2008. A review of the application revealed that it is not ready for docketing as an appeal. Accordingly, the application is herewith being returned to the Examiner to address the following matter(s) requiring attention prior to docketing.

EXAMINER'S CONSIDERATION OF REPLY BRIEF

A Reply Brief was filed on May 15, 2008, in response to the Examiner's Answer mailed March 18, 2008.

Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §41.43 states:

(a)(1)... the primary examiner must acknowledge receipt and entry of the reply brief. In addition, the primary examiner may withdraw the final rejection and reopen prosecution or may furnish a supplemental examiner's answer responding to any new issue raised in the reply brief.

The Communication mailed July 15, 2008, was an improper acknowledgment of the Reply Brief, as it constitutes a Supplemental Examiner's Answer as per MPEP§ 1208, part II. A Supplemental Examiner's Answers requires a Director or designees approval.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, it is

ORDERED that the application is returned to the Examiner:

- 1) vacate the Communication mailed July 15, 2008;
- 2) generate and mail either:
 - a) a revised Communication properly acknowledging to the Reply Brief dated May 15, 2008 in accordance with MPEP§ 1208, part II.; OR
 - b) issue a Supplemental Examiner's Answer with the required signature (Technology Center Director or designee), if appropriate; and
- 3) for such further action as may be appropriate.

If there are any questions pertaining to this Order, please contact the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences at 571-272-9797.

KZ/dw

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